DEF 12-

EXCISE

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

SECRET

781

45 Action

SS Info

21412

PP RUEHCR RUQMKG RUQMVL RUCJHK
DE RUFHPA 1013 2681410
ZNY SSSSS
P R 251400Z
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1633
INFO RUQMKG/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 25
RUFHDN/AMEMBASSY LONDON 251
RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TELAVIV 27
RUCJHK/CINCSTRKE
ZEN/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
ZEN/AMEMBASSY JIDDA
ZEN/DEFREPNAMA
STATE GR
BT
S E C R E T SEP 25

1965 SEP 25 AM 10 28

RAE(63)

9/25/65

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR 026
REVIEWED BY Duncan Peters DATE 2/2/84
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE OADR
TS AUTH Burke REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE IN PART
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS b-1

LIMDIS

DEPT PASS DEFENSE

CINCSTRIKE FOR RAMSEY

MIRAGES FOR JORDAN

for Jordan

EMBTELS 1501 AND 1540. OFP 15597 AND 15598

B1 (3a5) B1

1. QUAI'S [redacted] GAVE EMBOFF FOLLOWING INFO RE RESULTS KING HUSSEIN'S CONVERSATIONS ON MIRAGE AIRCRAFT WITH GENERAL DEGAULLE AND MINARMIES MESSMER SEPTEMBER 22 AND 24 (COMPARE REFERENCE OFP'S):

HUSSEIN REVIEWED FRANCO-JORDANIAN DISCUSSIONS RE MIRAGES WITH GENERAL DEGAULLE SEPTEMBER 22. LATTER PROMISED TAKE "PERSONAL" INTEREST IN MATTER AND EXPRESSED HIS AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO TRANSACTION. HE TOLD KING THAT FRENCH MINARMIES WOULD BE DIRECTED FOLLOW UP.

KING MET WITH MINARMIES MESSMER 24TH. LATTER REITERATED GOF AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE SUPPLY 36 MIRAGE III AIRCRAFT REQUESTED BY KING [redacted] NOT SURE OF MODEL, PRESUMED THEY WERE E'S RPT E'S). MESSMER INFORMED KING THAT GOF PROPOSED OFFER "NORMAL" CREDIT TERMS AND PRICES. FRENCH GOVERNMENT WOULD DO WHAT IT COULD TO TRY SATISFY HUSSEIN'S REQUEST FOR DELIVERY AIRCRAFT IN TWO RPT TWO YEARS. (FYI QUAIOFF UNABLE CLARIFY WHETHER DELIVERY INITIAL OR ALL AIRCRAFT MEANT).

B1 (3a5)

2

SECRET

2. [redacted] ADDED FOLLOWING: NORMAL CREDIT TERMS AND PRICES MEAN NO SPECIAL FACILITIES. TERMS THUS EXPECTED BE SIMILAR TO THOSE OFFERED LEBANESE. AIRCRAFT WOULD COST $3 TO $4 MILLION EACH (SEE FIRST REF EMBTEL). FINAL FIGURES MIGHT NOT BE SAME FOR LEBANESE AND JORDANIANS HOWEVER SINCE "JORDANIAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS" DIFFERED FROM LEBANESE.

FRANCO-JORDANIAN NEGOTIATIONS OF TERMS WOULD RESUME NEXT WEEK.

3. EMBOFF, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, EXPRESSED VIEW PRICE AND NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT UNDER DISCUSSION SUCH THAT UAC FACILITIES BELIEVED AVAILABLE TO GOJ APPEARED INADEQUATE. EMBOFF STRESSED DESIRABILITY USG CONTINUE BE KEPT CLOSELY INFORMED RE TERMS AND GENERALLY FRENCH GOVERNMENT VIEWS THIS PROBLEM. [redacted] EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING, WONDERED WHETHER USG ATTITUDE RE ANY AMERICAN FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION THIS TRANSACTION HAD EVOLVED. EMBOFF SAID HE UNINFORMED ANY CHANGE IN PERTINENT USG VIEWS WHICH KNOWN TO GOF.

COMMENT: EMBASSY FINDS FOLLOWING ASPECTS FOREGOING DEVELOPMENT INTERESTING:

(A) HUSSEIN JUDGEMENT IN TAKING MATTER TO DEGAULLE DIRECTLY AND CONSEQUENT DIRECTIVE WHICH PUT END TO INTERNAL GOF DIFFERENCES AND TEMPORIZING.

(B) DEGAULLE COMMITMENT TO TAKE PERSONAL INTEREST IN ARAB MATTER WHICH PERHAPS NOT UNRELATED TO AMER VISIT SPECIFICALLY AND FRENCH IMAGE IN ARAB WORLD GENERALLY.

(C) CONTINUATION OF MONEY PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY IF COST OF MIG-21 ROUGHLY ALF MILLION DOLLARS EACH AS RUMORED. GP-1 MCBRIDE BT

NOTE: PASSED DOD 10:55 AM, 9/25/65.